

### REMARKS

Claims 1 to 53 are in the application, with Claims 50 to 53 having been added. Claims 1, 11, 18, 27, 33, 42 and 48 to 53 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

In response to the Election Requirement dated November 4, 2004, Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute Species I, namely the embodiment in which a network management device receives requests for execution of a process upon a network device and determines whether a command to invalidate a password of the network device has been received with the process execution request. Claims 1 to 10, 18 to 26, 33 to 41, 48 and 50 to 53 read on the elected species. The election is made without traverse.

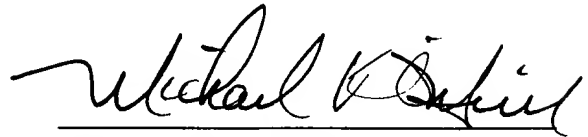
Examination of newly-added independent Claims 50 to 53 is respectfully requested. In addition, Claims 50 to 53 are believed to be generic to both of the species. Thus, upon allowance of any of Claims 50 to 53, it is respectfully requested that each of the non-elected claims, namely Claims 11 to 17, 27 to 32, 42 to 47 and 49, be rejoined.

An action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Regarding a formal matter, it is respectfully requested for the Examiner to acknowledge receipt of the Japanese priority application filed in this case on July 17, 2001.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,  
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to  
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", written over a horizontal line.

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